



IMPACT

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2015



Students gather on the High Courts gym and flash the Imagine U sign in celebration of the opening of the George S. Eccles Student Life Center.

Photo by Julian Gomez

George S. Eccles Student Life Center Opens to Rave Reviews

Spirits were high as University officials, former student leaders, donors, and friends gathered on a cold and snowy February 26 to celebrate the opening of the much-anticipated George S. Eccles Student Life Center. Inside the 183,000-square-foot, \$50.5 million building, students were already swimming laps in the 50-meter pool, working out in the expansive areas for cardio and weight training, and gripping their way to the top of the four-story climbing wall.

Guests met in the Steve and June Nebeker Legacy Gym to hear from those who have been involved with the project since the idea emerged nearly a decade ago, including Neela Pack, former ASUU president, who led the fundraising charge for the center in 2011-12. Rather than a traditional ribbon cutting, dignitaries kicked soccer balls into a goal as the Utah Pep Band played a rousing rendition of the Utah Fight Song—bringing guests to their feet to sing along.

A \$3 million grant from the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation led the private fundraising campaign for the project, which also included early \$1 million leadership gifts from Kem and Carolyn Gardner and the University Federal Credit Union.

“For us, the most compelling aspect of the center is that it’s been student-led from the very beginning,” says Spencer F. Eccles, chairman and chief executive officer of the Eccles Foundation. “The students have been the engine driving this project, and they have remained passionate, determined, and unflinching in their commitment to its success.”

continued page 2

Recent Major Gifts

We thank the following supporters for their generous gifts received between January 1, 2015 and March 31, 2015.

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Student Life Center *Continued*

“Our foundation jumped on board with the students more than six years ago to begin the center’s design and planning,” adds Lisa Eccles, president of the Eccles Foundation and U trustee. “We share their excitement about this incredible addition to our beloved alma mater. We certainly didn’t have anything like this when I was a student here!”

Campuses across the country with student recreation centers have seen improvements in student grade point averages, retention and graduation rates, and recruitment efforts. In fact, research indicates that participation in university recreation programs correlates positively with overall college satisfaction and success.

Supported in part by a new \$60-per-semester student fee, the balance of the building was funded through private gifts and faculty/staff use fees. The facilities will be available first and foremost to students, with faculty and staff use limited to those who purchase a membership.

“We couldn’t be more excited or more pleased for our students and the entire campus community, or more appreciative of the generosity of the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation and our other generous funding partners,” says U President David W. Pershing, “The positive impact this center will make throughout the University cannot be overstated.”

Amenities in the facility include an indoor running track, two racquetball courts, three basketball courts, a multi-sport gym, three pools, exercise classrooms, massage therapy, and a café. Campus Recreation Services staff operates the center, where it manages a fitness program, intramural sports, sport clubs, and the Outdoor Adventures program. Located at the west end of the George S. Eccles 2002 Legacy Bridge and adjacent to the Fort Douglas TRAX stop, the facility will be open year-round, seven days a week. It already is attracting an average of 3,500 people each day.

Additional details may be found online at campusrec.utah.edu.



The new Eccles Student Life Center, which opened for use on January 12, is attracting crowds of enthusiastic users.

STUDENT LIFE CENTER CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

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**In Memoriam – Former University of Utah president Chase N. Peterson was a vital and visionary member of the Campaign Committee.*

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 Glen and Kathy Shurtleff Family Kiosk



Lisa Eccles, president, with her father, Spencer F. Eccles, chairman and CEO, the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, stand on the track overlooking the High Courts gym.

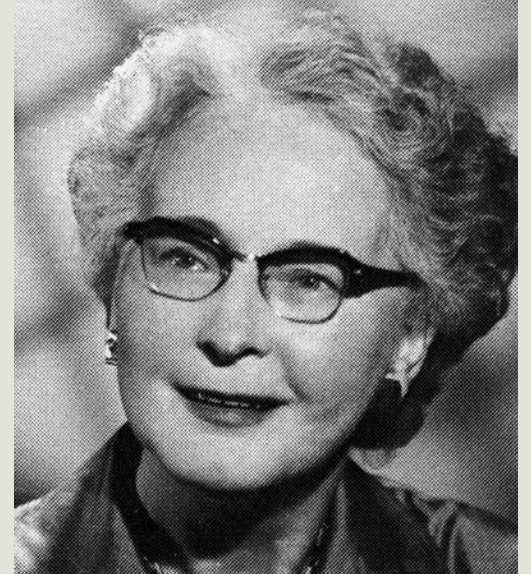
Photo courtesy of The Salt Lake Tribune

Estate Gift Honors Legacy of Aunt and Mentor

In 2005, Robert Browning Andersen MSW'65 quietly established an endowed scholarship in memory of his aunt and mentor, Louise Browning. Every year, he added a few thousand dollars until the Louise Browning Memorial Scholarship in the College of Social Work could generate a \$500 scholarship. "Hardly anyone knew he was doing this," says Bob's daughter, Tracy Andersen. "This secret was one of his greatest sources of joy."

When Bob died in 2013, the college learned what Tracy had known for years—that nearly the entirety of her father's estate was to be directed to the scholarship in his aunt's name. Tracy describes her father as a private person, not outwardly emotional. But when he spoke about the endowed scholarship in honor of his beloved Aunt Louise, "you could see the joy in his eyes. He was very proud," she says. Tracy was determined to follow through with her father's wishes. "I want to honor my dad's legacy. It is my job, my responsibility, to make that happen for him," she says.

Louise Browning BS'47 MS'49 worked as an elementary school teacher, and a medical records librarian at LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City. A crippling illness and lengthy recovery—and encouraging friends—caused her to rethink her professional choices. She returned to the University of Utah in the 1940s and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in sociology, and went on to Simmons College in Boston, where she received a master's degree in social work in 1951. Her self-described "interest in the emotional components of ills and in the study of human behavior" led her to serve as a counselor in the U's Bureau of Student Counsel, and to join the U faculty, teaching social work and sociology classes. With reluctance and regret, she resigned in 1966 due to her increasingly incapacitating disability.



Louise Browning, assistant professor emeritus at the U



Bob Andersen as a young man.

Bob described his aunt as the woman who gave him guidance when he needed it—a mother type. When things were difficult, Louise told him he could do greater things in his life. She turned his life around. She was the reason Bob went into social work and devoted his life to helping troubled youth. After he graduated from the U with degrees in psychology and social work, he served as director of the Utah Council on Criminal Justice Administration, worked for many years in the Utah Division of Corrections, and led Outward Bound outdoor leadership programs for youth. He was determined to help a new generation of kids make better choices. "Louise's actions helped my father, who in turn, helped change other children's lives for the better," says Tracy.

Thanks to Bob's generous gift, what began as a modest scholarship a decade ago will now significantly increase the scholarship dollars available for social work students at the U—a fitting tribute to the aunt who made such a difference in his life. The Andersen family's kindness and generosity through the lengthy estate process is a study of human behavior that Louise Browning would, without a doubt, view as an additional and equally treasured legacy.



Louise Browning, second from left, receives her master's degree in social work in 1951 at Simmons College, in Boston.

Major Gifts continued

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U Welcomes New Members to National Advisory Council

The University of Utah's National Advisory Council (NAC) is composed of a distinguished volunteer corps of prominent university alumni and friends. Established in 1968, the council serves the University through its advice and involvement in areas ranging from alumni programs and fundraising to legislative relations and student affairs. The University is pleased to announce four new members who will begin their terms when the NAC gathers for its annual spring meeting in May.



Cameron Cuch

Cameron is vice president of government affairs for Crescent Point Energy U.S. Corp. Before joining Crescent Point, Cameron was involved in the early start-up of Ute Energy LLC, where he served in numerous capacities before becoming vice president of government affairs and corporate development. Cameron is an enrolled member of the Ute Indian Tribe. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and a master's degree from the University of Utah. Cameron lives in Roosevelt, Utah, with his wife Marilyn and their two children.



Evan J. Vickers

Evan is the owner of Bulloch Drug and Township Professional Pharmacy in Cedar City, Utah, and a member of the Utah State Senate, representing District 28 (Beaver, Iron, and Washington counties). In addition, he served 12 years on the Cedar City Council. Evan is an adjunct professor with the University of Utah College of Pharmacy. He earned a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from the U in 1977. While a student, he was a member of the men's golf team, as well as the Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies. Evan and his wife, Chris, have five children.



Jana Robbins Paul

Jana was raised in Salt Lake City and graduated from the University of Utah in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in nursing. While at the U, she competed for the Ute swimming and diving team. Her senior year she was the High Country Athletic Conference Diving Champion in one and three meter diving. Active in student life on campus, she affiliated with Chi Omega sorority. After graduation she worked as a nurse at Primary Children's Hospital and for many years as a labor and delivery nurse. Jana is married to Mark Paul, a former president of the Associated Students of the University of Utah. The Pauls have resided in Massachusetts, Utah, France, and currently live in Northern California. They have four children, two of whom are currently students at the U.



Don Yacktman

Don Yacktman is partner and portfolio manager of Yacktman Asset Management, in Austin, Texas, which he founded in 1992. As head of two of the world's best-performing stock funds, Don is regularly interviewed by entities such as Bloomberg News and CNBC, and he has also shared insights with University of Utah students and deans. Don earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the U in 1965, graduating *magna cum laude*. He went on to earn a master's degree in business administration from Harvard University. Don was recognized with the Distinguished Alumnus award from the University of Utah Alumni Association in 2014. He and his wife, Carolyn, have seven children and 22 grandchildren.

UMFA Hosts Groundbreaking Latino Art Exhibit



Joseph Rodríguez, *Carlos*, from the series *Spanish Harlem*, 1987, chromogenic print, Smithsonian American Art Museum, gift of the artist. © 1987, Joseph Rodríguez

Our America: The Latino Presence in American Art, an exhibition drawn entirely from the Smithsonian American Art Museum's pioneering collection of Latino art, is enjoying a remarkable run at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. Extended through June 28, the groundbreaking exhibition is made possible by the generosity of Zions Bank, with additional support from the S. J. and Jessie E. Quinney Foundation and the Ray, Quinney & Nebeker Foundation (major sponsors), and Wells Fargo (supporting sponsor).

"We are honored to be the presenting sponsor of the exhibition," says Scott Anderson, president and CEO of Zions Bank. "I believe the arts reach into the very fiber of our communities and help us express our own creativity and enjoy the talents of others. The exploration, through this exhibition, of the rich and varied contributions of Latino artists in the United States is vitally important as we celebrate and embrace our state's increasingly diverse population."

For the past few decades, the Smithsonian has been working diligently to address the gap in its collection of American art, and *Our America* is the fruit of that effort. "The exhibition is rewriting art history," says Whitney Tassie, the UMFA's curator of modern and contemporary art. "Recognizing the significant role of Latino art within American art history is long overdue, and we are thrilled with the opportunity this exhibition gives us to communicate more broadly with our entire community. The UMFA, like the Smithsonian, strives to be a place where everyone can see their experience reflected in great art."

Our America explores the deep links between Latino art and U.S. history, culture, and art through work created since the 1950s, when the concept of a collective Latino identity began to emerge. Many works depict the richness of daily life through intimate or monumental portraits of everyday people, whose individuality also speaks to larger historical forces.

The artists—of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Dominican descent, as well as from other Latin American groups with deep roots in the United States—reflect the rich diversity of Latino communities in our country. From *El Chandelier*, by Pepón Osorio, a sculptor and installation artist from San Juan, Puerto Rico, whose traditional metal and glass chandelier is decked with colorful inexpensive trinkets; and Teresita Fernández's compelling *Nocturnal (Horizon Line)*, a commanding installation of solid pieces of mined graphite that strike the viewer for both its beauty and its weight; to New York City artist Joseph Rodríguez's provocative photograph, *Carlos*, from his series *Spanish Harlem*, the art displayed is surprising, eclectic, and imaginative.

"These are beautiful and important works of art that visitors won't see anywhere else in our region," says Gretchen Dietrich, the museum's executive director. "This exhibition provides a wonderful opportunity for all of us to experience stunning visual art while engaging each other in conversations and cultural exchange."

Salt Lake City is one of only eight cities throughout the country to host the exhibition, which includes more than 80 artworks by more than 60 artists. Additional information is online at www.umfa.utah.edu/ouramerica.

Major Gifts continued

- The Sorenson Legacy Foundation
- George H. and Tamie P. Speciale
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- John E. and Marva M. Warnock
- John A. and Amy B. Williams
- Zions Management Services Company
- Edward J. and Marelynn W. Zipser

* Deceased donors (listed if the University of Utah continues to receive support from their foundations, trusts, or estates).

ASUU's Rock the U Raises Funds for Cancer Research

During the overnight hours on March 27-28, nearly 400 students gathered on the arena floor of the Huntsman Center to participate in Rock the U, the annual dance marathon to benefit research at the Huntsman Cancer Institute. The event encourages dancers to stay on their feet for 13.1 hours—between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.—to represent the struggle of cancer patients, and to empower and unite students, alumni, and the larger community to defeat cancer by raising funds to benefit cancer research. Dancers each pay \$10 to participate in the competition and agree to each raise at least \$100 in donations. This year's event raised close to \$20,000.



Photo courtesy of Associated Students of the University of Utah

“I wanted to participate in Rock the U for my family and every other family battling cancer,” says Savannah, a student participant. “I have seen this disease first-hand, and by contributing, I’m adding one more helping hand to find the cure, and one more step toward the end of cancer.”

The idea for Rock the U came from then-student body president Jake Kirkham. “Everyone has been impacted by cancer in some way, and we wanted to contribute to the fight,” he says.

Since its inception in 2007, Rock the U, the official student-run philanthropy of the U, has raised more than \$300,000 for cancer research. During those nine years, the institute’s countless discoveries have included finding new ways to subtype breast cancer

for better and more targeted treatments (2011); identifying a new drug that is effective in patients who have developed resistance to standard treatments for chronic cyclod leukemia (2012); being the first research facility to get cancer to metastasize in a mouse model (2013); and discovering four new genes that increase familial breast cancer risk (2014).

“We here at Huntsman Cancer Foundation are able to donate 100 percent of all Rock the U donated dollars to fuel cancer research at Huntsman Cancer Institute,” says Jen Murano-Tucker, the foundation’s development officer. “We are so fortunate to have the support of the Associated Students of the University of Utah in the fight against cancer.”

Find out more about Rock the U online at www.rocktheu.org.



Photo courtesy of Associated Students of the University of Utah

Chevron: Supporting STEM Today Provides Professionals Tomorrow

For more than 30 years, Chevron has been supporting the STEM disciplines—science, technology, engineering, and math—at the University of Utah, through scholarships, fellowships, and science-related outreach programs for young people. Their generous support continues today.

“We want the students of today to gain the critical skills needed to succeed in the jobs of tomorrow—not only for the success of Chevron’s business, but also for the country’s ability to compete in the global marketplace,” says Greg Gabel, manager, Chevron Salt Lake Refinery. “The thinking is that if people and communities are to thrive, nothing is more important than education and job training that can lead directly to good-paying jobs, many of which are in the STEM disciplines.”

“Generous support from Chevron is immensely important to the Department of Geology and Geophysics, as it funds a graduate fellowship, an undergraduate scholarship, our American Association of Petroleum Geologists chapter, and our Petroleum Industry Career Path,” says Francis Brown, dean of the college of Mines and Earth Sciences. “Chevron also partners with the department in other ways, such as the recent Turks & Caicos modern carbonates field trip to the Caribbean led by Steve Bachtel, a Chevron geoscientist.”

Chevron’s ongoing support of STEM education at the U is providing enhanced teaching and learning opportunities to faculty, and to students of all ages—an investment that will pay big dividends as those students become the STEM professionals of the future.



Photo courtesy of Red Butte Garden

Kids learn about different kinds of cacti spines, and the difference between spines and thorns, at Red Butte Garden.



Photo courtesy of the Natural History Museum of Utah

As part of the museum’s Nano Camp, a Youth Teaching Youth seventh grader undertakes an experiment during a tour of the U’s Nano Lab.

At Red Butte Garden, Chevron makes it possible for students from kindergarten through 12th grade to tour the garden—directly immersing themselves in the wonders of botany science—by underwriting the transportation costs of getting students to and from the garden. Guided field trips led by garden staff or trained volunteers include science activities that meet the standards and objectives of the Utah State Core Curriculum at each grade level. During the 2013-14 school year, nearly 3,000 Title One students were able to visit the garden, thanks to Chevron’s generosity.

At the Natural History Museum of Utah, the Youth Teaching Youth science education, outreach and mentoring program just celebrated its 20th anniversary. As one of the program’s generous supporters, Chevron helps make it possible for students from Glendale Middle School to teach science to local fourth graders. As the middle school students move on to high school, they continue to learn and teach science as interns while developing college and career goals.



Steve Bachtel, a Chevron geoscientist (in dark shirt and hat) leads a trip to the Turks and Caicos Islands with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists student chapter, part of the U’s Department of Geology and Geophysics.

Red Butte Garden Outdoor Concert Series Begins in May

From its beginning in the 1980s as a series of five or six “alfresco summer concerts” in the Garden on Sunday evenings, to the current 3,000-capacity amphitheatre, with top-name acts and a schedule of consistently sold-out shows, Red Butte Garden is *the* place to experience some of the best summer concerts in Utah. It’s all there—panoramic alpenglow views of the Wasatch Mountains and the Salt Lake Valley at sunset, a botanical garden, the amphitheatre lawn for blankets and picnic spreads, and then—of course—the amazing artists on stage. The popular series is made possible by the generosity of presenting sponsor Wells Fargo, with additional support from Fidelity Investments (stage sponsor), and Digital Financial Group and Beehive Cheese Co. (supporting sponsors). So, for those looking for a big, yet intimate “alfresco” summer concert experience in Salt Lake City, look no further than Red Butte Garden. And word to the wise—get your tickets early. Concert tickets for the general public go on sale May 4.

More information is online at www.redbuttegarden.org/concerts.



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What's Inside

George S. Eccles Student Life Center Opens	1-2
Estate Gift Honors Legacy of Aunt and Mentor	3
New National Advisory Council Members Named	4
UMFA Hosts Groundbreaking Latino Art Exhibit.....	5
ASUU’s Rock the U Raises Funds for Cancer Research.....	6
Chevron: Supporting STEM Today Provides Professionals Tomorrow	7